BANNER & WITCOFF

DEC 2 8 2005

Ø 004/014

PTO/SB/30 (09 04) Approved for use through 07/31/:008, OMB 0851-0131 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMME! CE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid QMB control number. Request Application Number 09/941,857 For Filing Date 08/30/2001 Continued Examination (RCE) **First Named Inventor** Franco Montebovi **Transmittal** Art Unit 2645 Address to: Mail Stop RCE **Examiner Name** Ming Chow Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Attorney Docket Number 006559.00021 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 Note: if the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such emendment(s). a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. oxed Consider the arguments in the Appeal Strief or Reply Brief previously filed on oxedOther il. b. , X Enclosed Amendment/Reply III. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) lv. Dother_ Miscellaneoua Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for b. Other Fees. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a.
 \infty The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-0733. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.138 and 1.17)

Other п Ш. Check in the amount of \$ _ __ enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038, SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Signature Date 12/28/2005 Name (Print /Type) William J. Alter Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 51,393 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION 0994185 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U 3. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. 190733 Name (Print /Type) Date 12/28/2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (an I by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiallty is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 USPTO to process) an application. Commonitisality is governed by SS U.S.C. 122 and 37 CPR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to laxe 14 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending to an individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Tradesmerk Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DD NO SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Step RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

if you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.